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REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

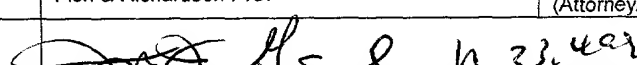
Address to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	Attorney Docket No.	10767-003001
	First Named Inventor	Michel Lesimple
	Original Patent Number	5,800,057
	Original Patent Issue Date	September 1, 1998
	Express Mail Label No.	EL445374750US

APPLICATION FOR REISSUE OF:
(check applicable box) ☒ Utility Patent ☐ Design Patent ☐ Plant Patent

APPLICATION ELEMENTS	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/56) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)	7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority Claim (35 U.S.C. 119) (if applicable)
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification and Claims (amended, if appropriate)	8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (Proposed amendments, if appropriate)	9. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation of Reissue Oath/Declaration (if applicable)
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reissue Oath / Declaration (original or copy)	10. <input type="checkbox"/> * Small Entity Statement(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application, status still proper and desired (PTO/SB/09-12)
5. Original U.S. Patent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offer to surrender Original Patent (37 C.F.R. § 1.178) (PTO/SB/53 or PTO/SB/54) <input type="checkbox"/> Ribboned Original Patent Grant <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit / Declaration of Loss (PTO/SB/55)	11. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment
6. Original U.S. Patent currently assigned? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If Yes, check applicable box(es)) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Consent of all Assignees (PTO/SB/53 or 54) <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney	12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)
	13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Request for Transfer of Original Drawings</u>

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REISSUE APPLICATION FEE TRANSMITTAL FORMDOCKET NUMBER (Optional)
10767-003001**Claims as Filed – Part 1**

Claims in Patent	For	Number Filed in Reissue Application	(3) Number Extra	Small Entity		Other than a Small Entity	
				Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
(A) 14	Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(j))	(B) 50	30 =	x \$9 =	\$270	or	x \$__ =
(C) 3	Independent Claims (37 CFR 1.16(i))	(D) 7	4 =	x \$39 =	\$156		x \$__ =
Basic Fee (37 CFR 1.16(h))					\$345	OR	\$
Multiple Claim Fee					\$130		
Total Filing Fee					\$901		

Claims as Amended – Part 2

	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Extra Claims Present	Small Entity		Other than a Small Entity	
					Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(j))		MINUS	**	* =	x \$__ =		or	x \$__ =
Independent Claims (37 CFR 1.16(i))		MINUS	*****	=	x \$__ =			x \$__ =
Total Additional Fee					\$	OR	\$	

If the entry in (D) is less than the entry in (C), write "0" in column 3.

** If the "Highest Number of Total Claims Previously Paid For" is less than 20, Write "20" in this space

*** After any cancellation of claims

**** If "A" is greater than 20, use (B-A); If "A" is 20 or less, use (B-20).

***** "Highest Number of Independent Claims Previously Paid For" or Number of Independent Claims in Patent (c)

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Signature of Applicant, Attorney or Agent of Record

John J. Gagel, Reg. No. 33,499

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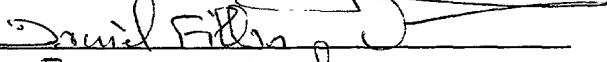
Patentee: Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme
Patent No.: 5,800,057
Serial No.: 748,891
Issued: September 1, 1998
Filed: October 8, 1996
Title: DRIVING HEAD FOR STIRRER CANS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CONSENT OF ASSIGNEE AND OFFER TO SURRENDER

The undersigned, Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme, being the assignee of all right, title and interest in and to the above-referenced U.S. Patent No. 5,800,057 by virtue of an assignment from Michel Lesimple to Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme recorded on October 8, 1996, at Reel 008252, Frame 0928, hereby assents to the accompanying reissue application, and hereby offers to surrender said Patent 5,800,057 and further requests that Letters Patent be reissued to it upon the foregoing amended application.

Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme

Date: 08/02/00 By: 
Name: FILLON, Daniel
Title: President

DRIVING HEAD FOR STIRRER CANS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to those cabinets for stirrer cans of the type as used for the storing of cans that contain paints etc. to be maintained under stirring.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The cabinets that are currently used comprise a plurality of shelves arranged one above the other, and having a bottom portion that is provided with driving heads of the small blade type, which driving heads cooperate with fingers arranged on the cover of each can and used for driving a shaft passing through this cover and supporting a stirring screw or the like.

In order to prevent rotation of the cans on the shelves, fixed or movable protruding pins are provided, which are used for securely retaining the base of the can. These protruding pins are often harmful and can cause damage to the cans, particularly when the same are made of synthetic material.

The protruding pins or other means for locking the cans have also the important drawback that they make difficult the cleaning of the shelves to which they are fixedly connected. Moreover, in case of leakage of the can, the apertures provided in the shelves for making or positioning the protruding pins allow flow of paint from one shelf to another shelf.

The invention relates to a new driving head for stirrer cans which allow the use of smooth shelves without any particular member to be provided on these shelves.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to the invention, the driving head for stirrer cans each comprising a small blade driven by a first shaft and cooperating with fingers for driving a second shaft of a stirrer located in a can, is characterized in that the fingers protrude from a plate engaged in a grip that is a part of a body having a general shape like a swan-neck which is arranged beneath a shelf, this body having an upper portion that is penetrated by the first shaft that carries and drives the small blade as well as means that prevent rotation of each stirrer can.

A driving head for a stirrer can, the stirrer can comprising a cover with a rotatable plate having upwardly projecting fingers and further comprising a stirrer inside the stirrer can, the driving head mounted beneath a hollow shelf, according to the present invention is primarily characterized by:

- a driven shaft;
- a blade fixedly connected to the driven shaft;
- the blade engaging the fingers for driving the stirrer inside the stirrer can;
- a swan-neck shaped body having an upper portion connected to the shelf and a lower portion;
- the lower portion of the body comprising a grip for engaging the rotatable plate of the stirrer can;
- the driven shaft projecting through the upper portion of the body; and
- means for preventing rotation of the stirrer can.

The driving head may further comprise anti-friction means positioned between the grip and the rotatable plate.

The body preferably comprises a protecting hub of a substantially circular shape positioned closely above the blade.

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The driving head may also comprise a drive pulley connected to the driven shaft, the drive pulley positioned within the hollow shelf, wherein the hub comprises a sleeve and a bearing member mounted in the sleeve and wherein the driven shaft is guided in the bearing member.

The driving head may also include a spindle connected to an end of the shaft below the hub, the blade pivotably connected to the spindle, the blade having a bottom portion with a concave cutout to prevent wedging the fingers of the operator.

Preferably, the means for preventing rotation of the stirrer can is a pivotable stirrup connected to the body, the stirrup engaging a portion of the cover of the stirrer can for limiting rotation of the stirrer can after placement on a shelf below the hollow shelf to which the body is connected.

The body preferably comprises a bearing member and the stirrup is connected to the bearing member, the stirrup comprising a yoke with studs for connecting the stirrup to the bearing member.

The grip advantageously has means for supporting the cover and the stirrer can.

The means for supporting are lugs connected to the bottom side of the grip and projecting inwardly.

The cover has preferably a bottom portion and the hollow shelf has a grip support for engaging the bottom portion of the cover.

The present invention also relates to a stirrer can for cooperation with a driving head mounted beneath a shelf. The stirrer can according to the present invention comprises:

- a can container;
- a cover for closing the can container;
- a rotatable plate mounted on the cover;
- the rotatable plate having upwardly projecting fingers;
- a stirrer connected to the rotatable plate and positioned inside the can container;
- the fingers engaged by the driving head when the stirrer can is positioned on a shelf beneath the hollow shelf on which the stirrer head is mounted.

The can may further comprise a spring with a first and a second end, the stirrer comprising a shaft and a stirring screw at an end of the shaft remote from the cover, the spring coaxially placed on the shaft and supported with the first end at a bottom side of the cover and with the second end at the stirring screw.

The invention also relates to a cabinet for stirrer cans. The cabinet according to the present invention is primarily characterized by:

- a plurality of hollow shelves spaced one atop the other;
- each hollow shelf having a smooth surface;
- each hollow shelf having connected thereto a plurality of driving heads;
- each one of the driving heads comprised of:
 - a) a driven shaft and a blade fixedly connected to the driven shaft, the blade engaging a stirrer of a stirrer can for driving the stirrer inside the stirrer can;
 - b) a swan-neck shaped body having an upper portion connected to the hollow shelf and a lower portion;
 - c) the lower portion of the body comprising a grip for engaging the rotatable plate of the stirrer can;
 - d) the driven shaft projecting through the upper portion of the body;
 - e) a drive pulley connected to the drive shaft and positioned inside the hollow shelf;
 - f) a drive means for driving at least one of the drive pulleys; and

e) means for preventing rotation of the stirrer can.

At least one of the hollow shelves has a bottom portion with two levels, such that the driving heads connected to the bottom portion are at different levels.

The shelves comprise raising members for raising the stirrer cans to a desired level.

Various other features of the invention will moreover be revealed from the following detailed disclosure.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Embodiments of the invention are shown, as non limitative examples, in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet that comprises driving heads for stirrer cans, according to the invention;

FIG. 2 is a very enlarged partial cross-section taken substantially along line II—II of the FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an exploded perspective view of the driving head, according to the invention;

FIGS. 4-7 are elevations, partly in cross-section, diagrammatically showing how to position a stirrer can;

FIG. 8 is a very enlarged cross-section taken along line VIII—VIII of FIG. 5;

FIG. 9 is a cross-section similar to FIG. 8 but showing a stirrer can engaged with the driving head;

FIG. 10 is a diagrammatic partial cross-section showing a development of a cabinet that applies the invention;

FIG. 11 is an exploded perspective view illustrating a development of the invention;

FIG. 12 is a partial exploded perspective view illustrating the development of the invention according to FIG. 11 in an other embodiment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings, FIG. 1 shows a cabinet that includes upright members 1 and 2 with shelves 3 being arranged between the upright elements 1 and 2 and which are formed by hollow bodies as shown in FIG. 2.

Stirring heads 4 are protruding beneath the shelves 3.

Each of the stirring heads 4 is driven by a pulley 5 arranged within a shelf 3. The various pulleys corresponding to each stirring head are themselves driven, for example, by means of a common belt 6.

The pulleys 5 are mounted on a shaft 7 carried by a bearing member 8 arranged in each of the stirring heads 4 that comprises therefor a sleeve 9.

As shown in particular in FIGS. 2 and 3, the stirring heads are, preferably, formed by molded parts of plastic material or metal, the body 10 of which has the general shape of a swan-neck ending in a grip 11 having the shape of an outer collar made integrally with the body 10 or attached thereto. The grip 11 is a resilient part and has on an angular opening which is slightly greater than 180°. This grip 11 is advantageously made of an antifriction material or is coated with such an antifriction material.

The body 10 defines a bearing member 10a formed, for example, of a small socket made by molding, used for articulating a stirrup 12 that is advantageously made of molded material and comprises a yoke 12a with arms that have studs or protrusions (not shown) that form an axle articulated in the bearing member 10a.

This embodiment enables to position the stirrup 12 by snapping it into place, the stirrup 12 having to be able to pivot as this is shown in the following description.

FIG. 7 shows moreover that the invention enables to cause cans, having various heights, to be driven by any one of the

stirring heads 4. It is then sufficient to position a raising member 25 on the shelf 3a.

FIG. 10 illustrates a development showing that the bottom portion of a shelf 3b may comprise two stirring heads 4 arranged at various levels, these offset stirring heads enabling to drive the stirring shafts of cans 16a, 16b of various heights, preferably positioned one behind the other or staggered one relative to the other for facilitating access to a rear row.

FIG. 11 shows a development of the invention according to which the grip 11 is insidely provided, at its lower portion, with lugs or other supporting means 26 that protrude inwardly. The means 26 are adapted for bearing against the bottom portion of a protruding portion of the cover 17 or, as shown, against the bottom portion of the centering ring 21. The cover 17 covering the can 16 is positioned in the grip 11 as described above.

In this embodiment, a unit formed by the can, the cover and the driving mechanism is thus suspended by the grip 11 without the can 16 being supported on a shelf 3. As previously, the can 16 is prevented from rotating by means of the stirrup 12, and the shelves 3 can be manufactured for having a top portion which is smooth and easily cleanable.

For preventing an axial displacement of the shaft 18 that drives the stirring screw 18a, it is advantageous to position a spring 27 engaged on the shaft 18 and bearing, on the one hand, on the bottom portion of the cover 17 and, on the other hand, on the stirring screw 18a. The strength of the spring 27 is chosen according to the weight of the can 16 and the product contained therein.

FIG. 12 illustrates an other variant which shows that the bottom portion of the shelves 3 defines a bent edge 28 for grip supports 29, each provided to clamp a can 16 by bearing against the bottom portion of the cover 17.

It is advantageous that the grip supports 29 which are made of a resilient material will be covered with an elastomeric material or the like so to form, on the one hand, a protection and, on the other hand, end protrusions 30 for retaining the can 16. The grip supports 29 are arcuate and have an angular opening greater than 180°.

It is moreover possible that the centering ring 21 is attached to the plate 22 and, in case, will be spaced therefrom by a ball bearing or the like in order that there is no friction between the plate 22 and the grip 11.

The invention is not restricted to the embodiments shown and described in detail, since various modification thereof can be carried thereto without departing from the scope of the invention as shown in the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. A driving head for a stirrer can, the stirrer can comprising a cover with a rotatable plate having upwardly projecting fingers and further comprising a stirrer inside the stirrer can, said driving head mounted beneath a hollow shelf and comprising:
 - a driven shaft;
 - a blade fixedly connected to said driven shaft;
 - said blade engaging the fingers for driving the stirrer inside the stirrer can;
 - a swan-neck shaped body having an upper portion connected to the shelf and a lower portion;
 - said lower portion of said body comprising a grip for engaging the rotatable plate of the stirrer can;
 - said driven shaft projecting through said upper portion of said body; and
 - means for preventing rotation of the stirrer can by engaging a portion of the cover of the stirrer can after

- c) said lower portion of said body comprising a grip for engaging a rotatable plate of the stirrer can;
- d) said driven shaft projecting through said upper portion of said body;
- e) a drive pulley connected to said driven shaft and positioned inside said hollow shelf; and
- f) means for preventing rotation of the stirrer can by engaging a portion of a cover of the stirrer can after placement of the stirrer can on a shelf below said hollow shelf to which said body is connected;

14. A cabinet according to claim 12, wherein said shelves comprise raising members for raising the stirrer cans to a desired level.

15. A system for stirring paint in a can, comprising:
a can cover with a paint stirrer that extends into the can and includes a rotatable drive shaft;
a shelf for supporting the can;
a stirring head positioned above the shelf, and
a downwardly extending interference arm that prevents rotation of the can as the stirrer rotates by interfering with the cover.
16. The system of claim 15 wherein the interference arm is a single downwardly extending arm.
17. The system of claim 15 wherein the interference arm comprises two downwardly extending arms.
18. The system of claim 15 wherein the interference arm is pivotable.
19. The system of any one of claims 15 to 18 wherein the can cover includes a pouring spout and the interference arm engages the spout to prevent rotation.
20. The system of claim 19 wherein the shelf is free of pins.
21. The system of claim 19 including an engaging member connected to the stirring head, the engaging member engaging an upper portion of the drive shaft.
22. The system of claim 21 wherein the engaging member is a collar.
23. The system of claim 22 wherein the collar is a resilient member.
24. The system of claim 21 wherein the engaging portion is connected to a downwardly extending neck.

25. The system of claim 24 wherein the interference member is connected to the neck adjacent the engaging portion.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein the upper shaft portion includes upwardly extending fingers and the head includes a stirrer driver having a blade articulatable with the fingers to effect rotation.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein the upper shaft portion includes a plate and the engaging portion engages the plate.

28. The system of claim 19 wherein the stirring head comprises a molded body.

29. A system for stirring paint in a can, comprising:
a can cover with a paint stirrer that extends into the can and includes a rotatable drive shaft;

a shelf for supporting the can; and

a stirring head positioned above the shelf, the stirring head comprising a body including a downwardly extending interference arm that prevents rotation of the can as the stirrer rotates by interfering with the cover and an engaging member for engaging a portion of the drive shaft extending above the can cover.

30. The system of claim 29 wherein the stirring head comprises a molded body.

31. The system of claim 30 wherein the body is plastic.

32. The system of claim 31 wherein the shaft portion includes a plate with upwardly extending fingers and the stirring head including a driver with a blade actuatable with the fingers to effect rotation, and the engaging portion engages the plate.

33. The system of claim 30 or 32 wherein the interference arm is a single downwardly extending arm.

34. The system of claim 30 or 32 wherein the interference arm comprises two downwardly extending arms.

35. The system of claim 30 or 32 wherein the interference arm is pivotable.

36. The system of any one of claims 30 or 32 wherein the can cover includes a pouring spout and the interference arm engages the spout to prevent rotation.

37. The system of claim 30 or 32 wherein the shelf is free of pins.

38. A paint stirring head body that can be positioned above a paint can cover including a rotatable drive shaft, the body comprising a downwardly extending interference arm arranged to engage the can cover to prevent rotation of the can as the stirrer rotates.

39. The body of claim 38 wherein the body includes an engaging member for engaging for an upper portion of the shaft protruding above the cover.

40. The body of claim 39 wherein the engaging member is a collar.

41. The body of claim 40 wherein the collar is a resilient member.

42. The body of any one of claims 39 to 41 wherein the engaging portion is connected to a neck.

43. The body of claim 42 wherein the interference arm is connected to the neck element adjacent the engaging member.

44. The body of claim 42 wherein the interference arm comprises a single downwardly extending arm.

45. The body of claim 42 wherein the interference arm is pivotable.

46. The body of claim 44 wherein the interference member engages a pouring spout on the can to prevent rotation.

47. A paint stirring head that can be positioned above a paint can cover including a rotatable drive shaft to effect rotation of a paint stirrer inside a paint can, comprising a molded body with a downwardly extending interference arm arranged to engage the can cover to prevent rotation of the can as the stirrer rotates and an engaging member arranged to engage a portion of the shaft protruding from the cover.

48. The head of claim 47 wherein the molded body includes an opening for receiving a drive spindle.

49. The head of claim 48 wherein the molded body includes a neck position from which extends the interference arm and the engaging portion.

50. The head of claim 49 wherein the engaging portion comprises a circle-portion in alignment with the drive spindle opening.



US005800057A

United States Patent [19] Lesimple

[11] Patent Number: 5,800,057
[45] Date of Patent: Sep. 1, 1998

[54] DRIVING HEAD FOR STIRRER CANS

[75] Inventor: Michel Lesimple, Eure et Loir, France

[73] Assignee: Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme, Eure et Loir, France

[21] Appl. No.: 748,891

[22] Filed: Oct. 8, 1996

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

Dec. 8, 1995 [FR] France 95 14574

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ B01F 7/24

[52] U.S. Cl. 366/198; 366/249; 366/605

[58] Field of Search 366/197, 198,
366/242-251, 605

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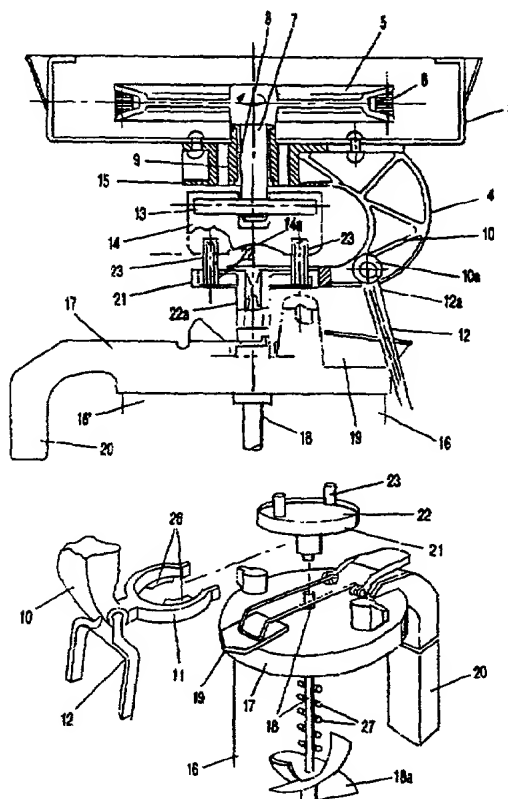
Primary Examiner—Charles E. Cooley

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Robert W. Becker & Associate

[57] ABSTRACT

A driving head for a stirrer can is provided. The stirrer can includes a cover with a rotatable plate having upwardly projecting fingers and further includes a stirrer inside the stirrer can. The driving head is mounted beneath a hollow shelf, includes a driven shaft and a blade fixedly connected to the driven shaft. The blade engages the fingers for driving the stirrer inside the stirrer can. A swan-neck shaped body having an upper portion, connected to the shelf, and a lower portion is provided. The lower portion of the body comprises a grip for engaging the rotatable plate of the stirrer can. The driven shaft projects through the upper portion of the body. A device for preventing rotation of the stirrer can is provided.

14 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



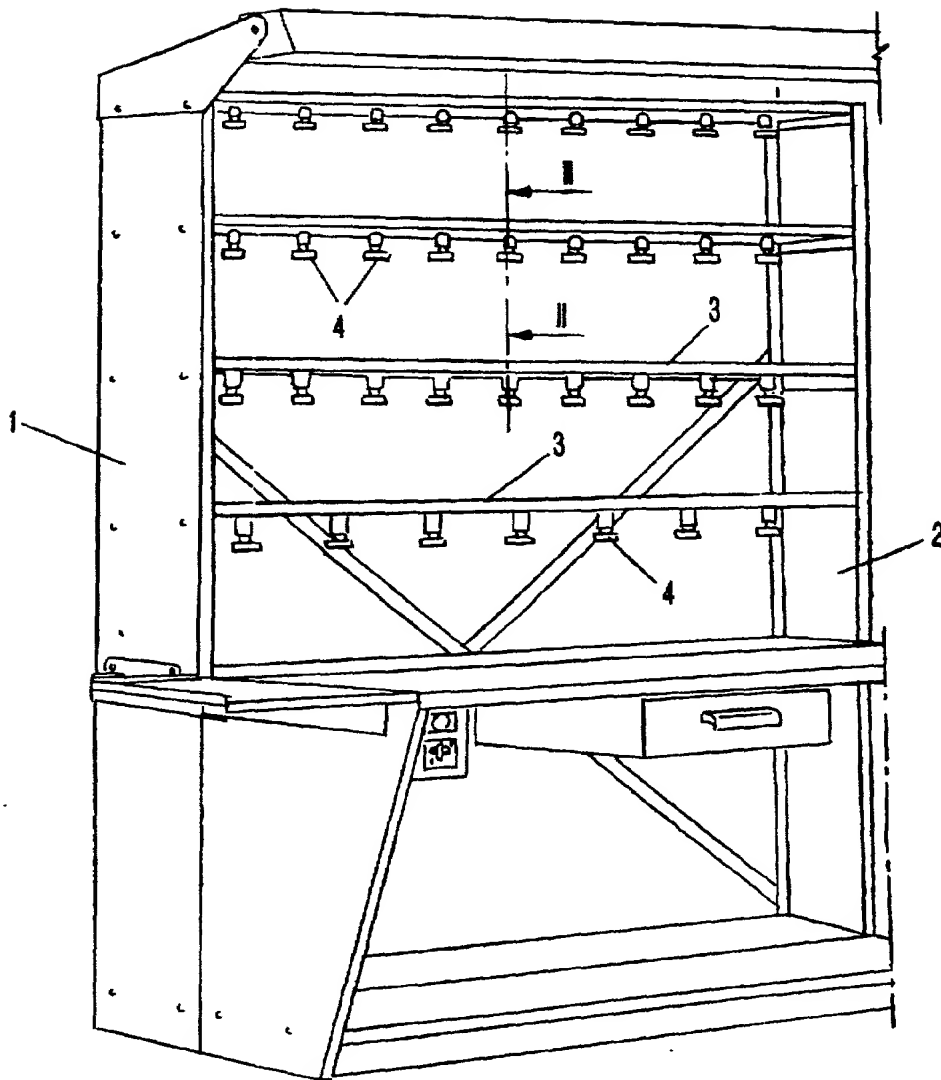


FIG-1

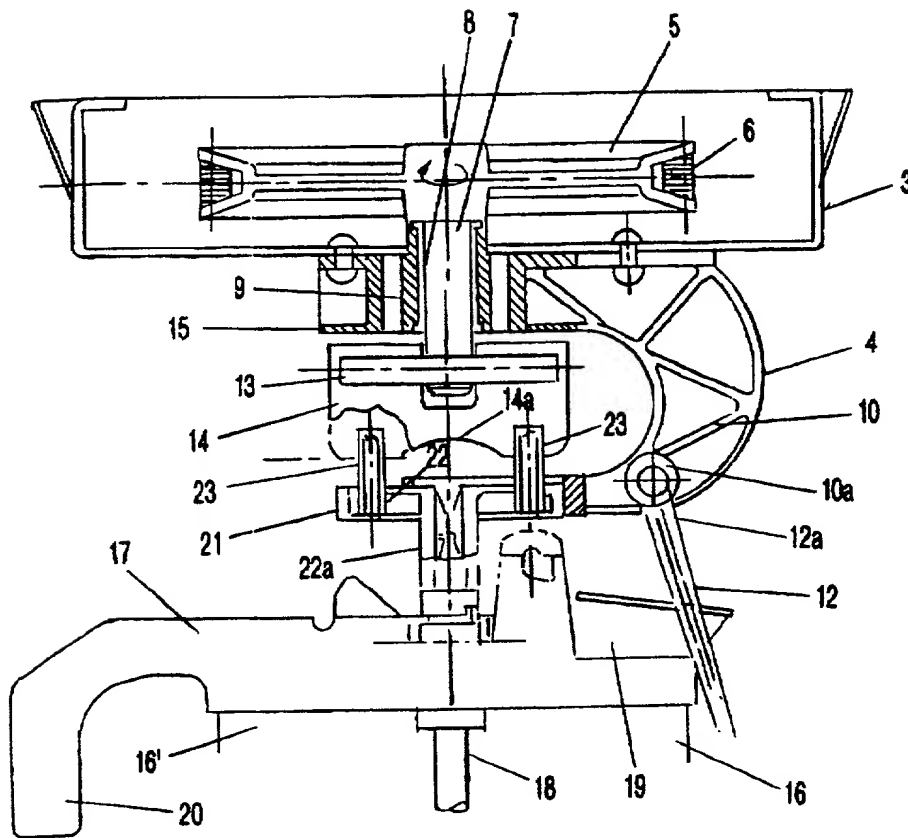


FIG-2

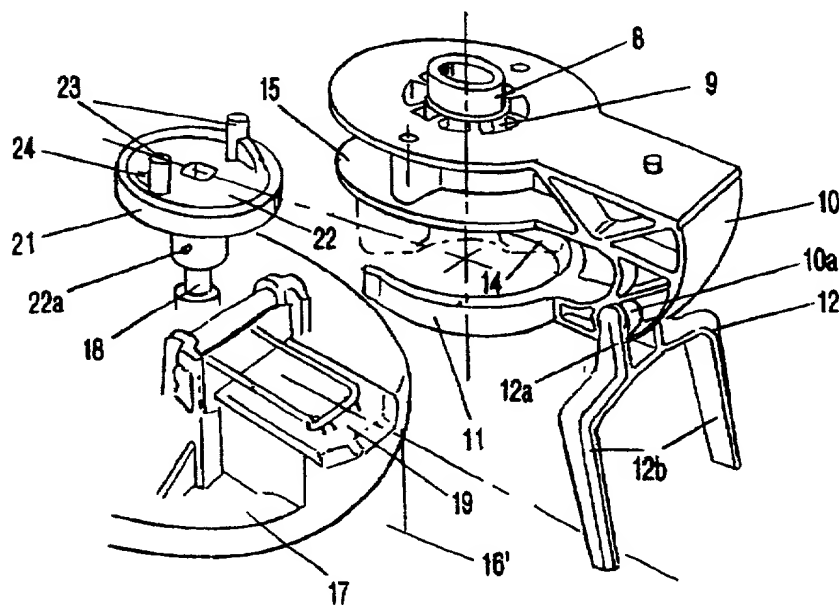
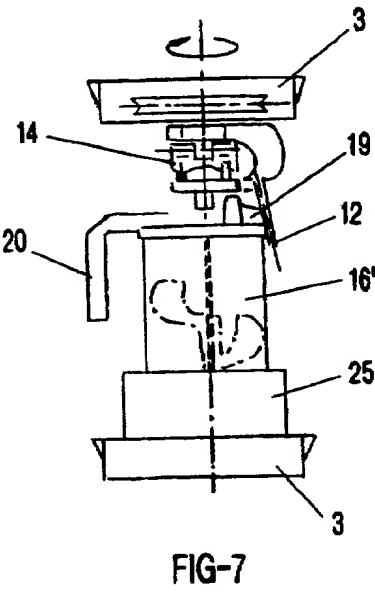
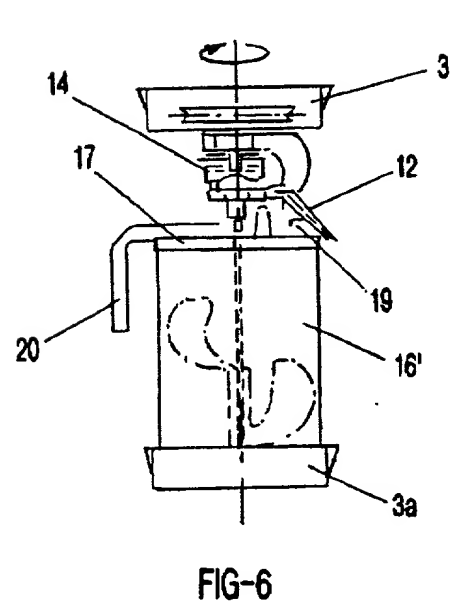
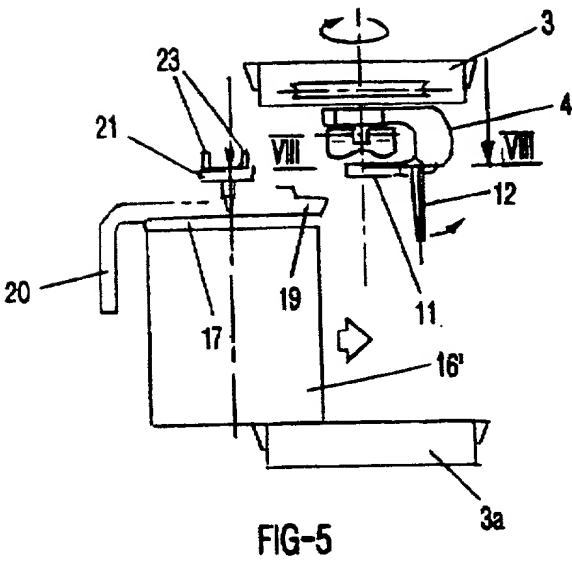
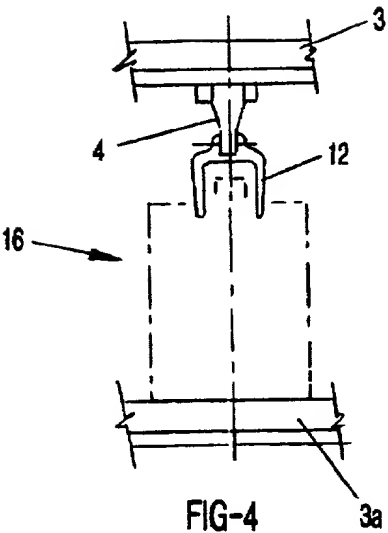
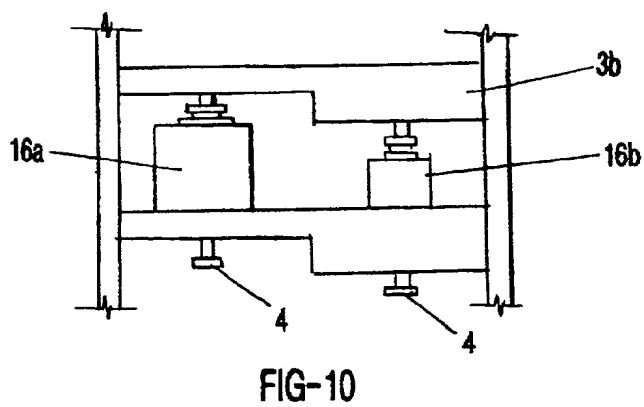
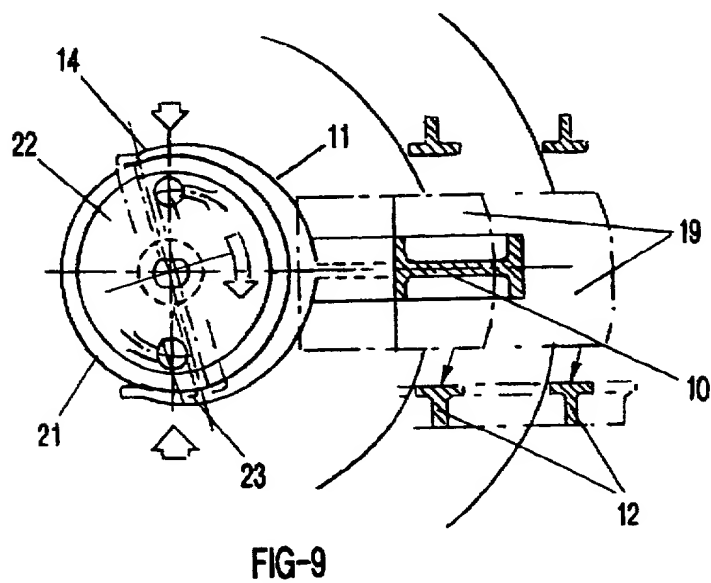
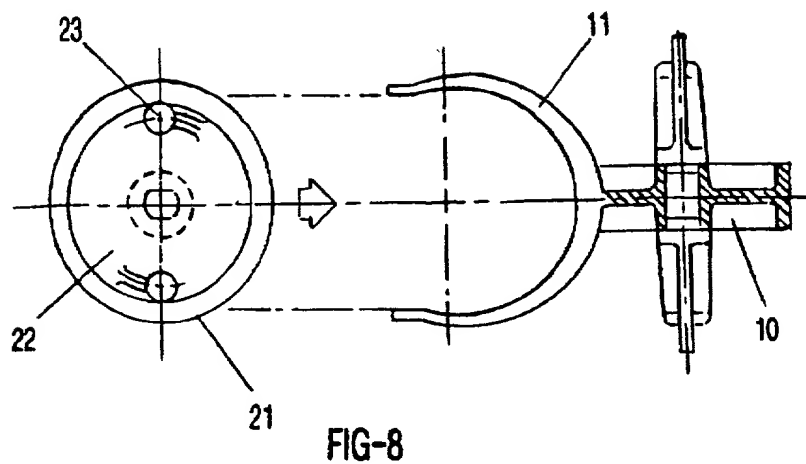


FIG-3





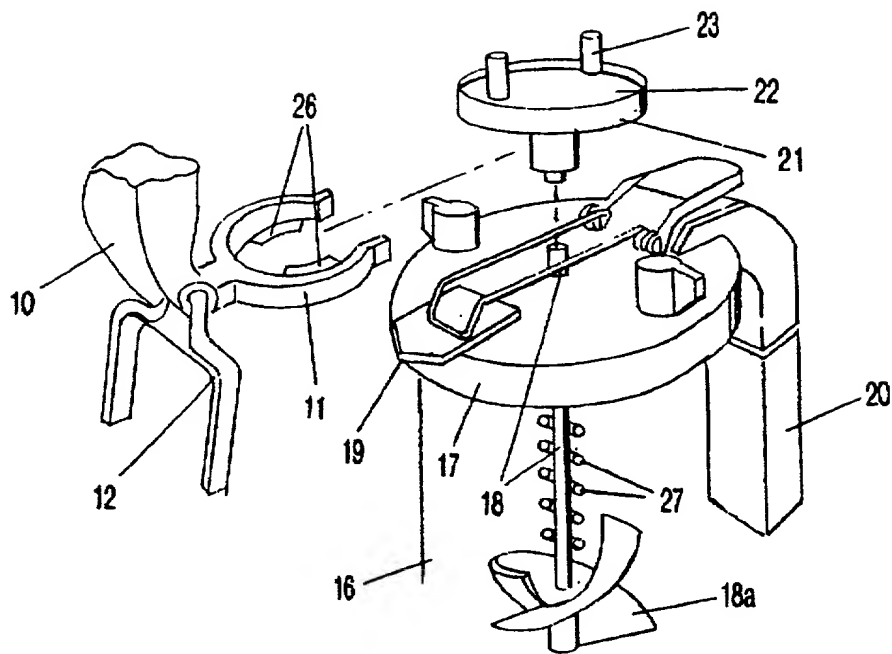


FIG-11

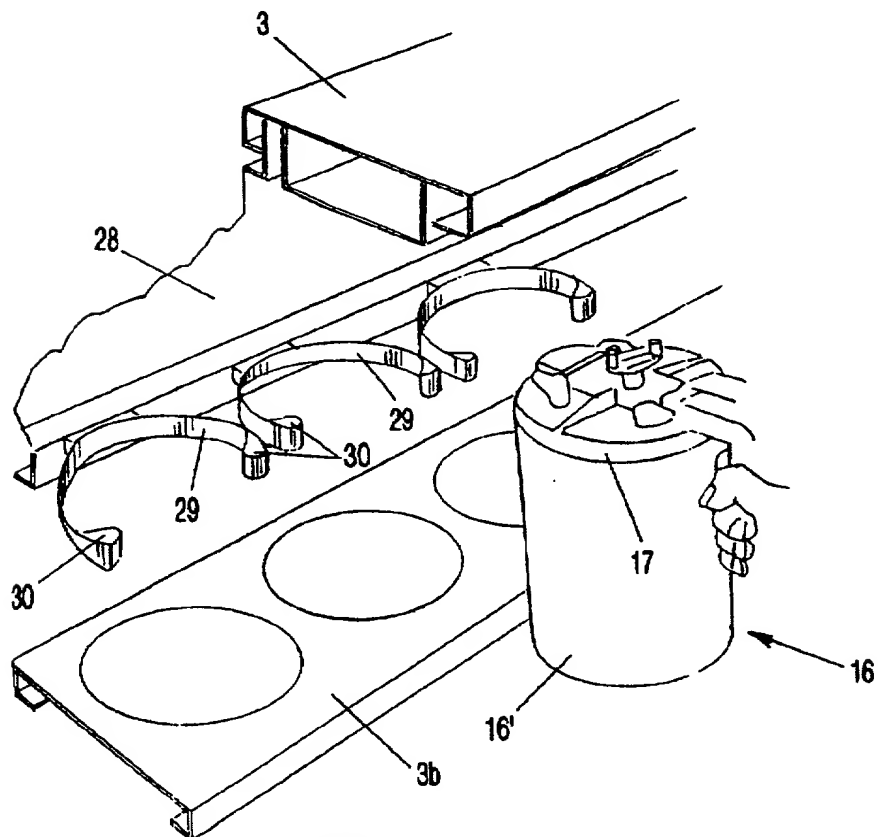


FIG-12

Patentee: Fillon Pichon Societe Anonyme Art Unit:
Patent No.: 5,800,057 Examiner:
Serial No: 748,891
Issued: September 1, 1998
Filed: October 8, 1996
Title: DRIVING HEAD FOR STIRRER CANS

DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.175

I, Michel Lesimple, declare that I believe that I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter that is described and claimed in United States Patent No. 5,800,057 for which I solicit a reissue patent; that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified reissue application, including its specification and claims; that I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information of which I am aware that is material to the examination of this reissue application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), §1.56; that the aforesaid patent is partly inoperative by reason of claiming less than I had the right to claim in the patent; and that said inoperativeness is a result of error that arose inadvertently and without any deceptive intention.

The patent claims less than I had a right to claim, in that the specification of the issued patent discloses an invention that is broader than what is claimed. One error relied upon as the basis of this reissue application was that of originally filing claims directed to subject matter that was narrower than I had a right to claim. Claims 1, 11 and 12 are the independent claims in the patent. Claim 1 recites a driving head for a stirring can, the stirrer can comprising a rotatable plate having upwardly projecting fingers. Claim 11 recites a can with a spring. Claim 12 recites a cabinet for stirrer cans, the cabinet comprising a plurality of hollow shelves. The specification, on the other hand, more broadly describes the invention of systems for stirring paint and paint stirring heads including a downwardly extending inference arm that prevents rotation of a paint can by

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interfering with or engaging its cover. This error and any and all other errors being corrected in the reissue application arose without deceptive intention.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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I declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statement and the like so made punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patents issued thereon.

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